

U.S.S.N. 09/661,773

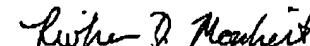
Filed: September 14, 2000

AMENDMENT IN VIEW OF BOARD'S DECISION**Remarks**

In its decision, the Board of Appeals affirmed the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) over U.S. Patent No. 6,277,413 to Sankaram ("Sankaram") with respect to claims 1, 15, 29, 31, and 32 and reversed the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) over Sankaram with respect to claims 2-14, 16, 17, and 30. In response, Applicants cancel claims 1, 3, and 30. Claim 2 has been amended to be an independent claim incorporating the limitations of cancelled claims 1 and 3. Claims 4, 5, 7, 10, 11, 13, 15-17, and 31 have been amended to depend from claim 2. Claim 29 has been amended to include the limitations of claim 2, as amended. All of the pending claims should now be in condition for allowance.

Allowance of claims 2, 4-17, 29, 31, and 32, as amended, is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



Rivka D. Monheit

Reg. No. 48,731

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PABST PATENT GROUP LLP
400 Colony Square, Suite 1200
1201 Peachtree Street
Atlanta, Georgia 30361
(404) 879-2152
(404) 879-2160 (Facsimile)

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